

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for communicating over a time-division duplex channel, comprising:
 - 2 (a) receiving a first packet at a first frequency from a first slave device
 - 3 via the channel, wherein said first packet is received beginning at a
 - 4 first slot; and
 - 5 (b) determining whether said first packet is a multi-slot packet, and if so,
 - 6 transmitting a second packet to a second slave device via the channel
 - 7 at a second frequency different from said first frequency, wherein
 - 8 said second packet is transmitted after said first slot and prior to the
 - 9 end of said first packet.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein said first packet comprises a header having a
- 2 packet type code indicative of the slot length of said first packet, and said
- 3 determining comprises inferring whether said first packet is a multi-slot packet
- 4 based on said packet type code.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein said second packet is transmitted during the first
- 2 available transmit slot.
- 1 4. A computer readable media embodying a method for communicating over a
- 2 time-division duplex channel, the method comprising:
 - 3 (a) receiving a first packet at a first frequency from a first slave device
 - 4 via the channel, wherein said first packet is received beginning at a
 - 5 first slot; and
 - 6 (b) determining whether said first packet is a multi-slot packet, and if so,
 - 7 transmitting a second packet to a second slave device via the channel
 - 8 at a second frequency different from said first frequency, wherein
 - 9 said second packet is transmitted after said first slot and prior to the
 - 10 end of said first packet.
- 1 5. The computer readable media of claim 4, wherein said first packet comprises a
- 2 header having a packet type code indicative of the slot length of said first packet,
- 3 and said determining comprises inferring whether said first packet is a multi-slot
- 4 packet based on said packet type code.

1 6. The computer readable media of claim 4, wherein said second packet is
2 transmitted during the first available transmit slot.

1 7. A wireless device for communicating over a time-division duplex channel, said
2 wireless device comprising:
3 a first radio configured to receive a multi-slot packet at a first frequency from a
4 first slave via the channel, wherein said multi-slot packet is received during a first slot;
5 means for determining whether said first packet is a multi-slot packet; and
6 a second radio configured to transmit a second packet to a second slave
7 responsive to said means making a positive determination, wherein said second packet
8 is transmitted via the channel at a second frequency different from said first frequency
9 after said first slot and prior to the end of said first packet.

1 8. The wireless device of claim 7, wherein said wireless device acts as a master to
2 said first slave and said second slave.

1 9. The wireless device of claim 7, wherein said wireless device comprises a
2 network access point coupled to a network.

1 10. The wireless device of claim 7, wherein said first radio comprises a receive-only
2 radio.

1 11. The wireless device of claim 7, wherein said first and second radios comprise
2 2.4 GHz Bluetooth radios.

1 12. The wireless device of claim 7, wherein said first packet comprises a header
2 having a packet type code indicative of the slot length of said first packet, and
3 said means for determining comprises means for inferring whether said first
4 packet is a multi-slot packet based on said packet type code.

1 13. The wireless device of claim 7, wherein said second packet is transmitted during
2 the first available transmit slot.

1 14. A method for selectively utilizing a plurality of transceivers to facilitate
2 communications between a primary device and a plurality of secondary devices
3 in a network, the method comprising:

- 19 -

- (a) defining a duplex communication channel using a plurality of time slots and a plurality of communication frequencies, each time slot having an associated communication frequency;
- (b) tuning a first transceiver to a sequence of frequencies based on the passing of time slots;
- (c) detecting a first portion of a multi-slot packet in a first time slot;
- (d) timing said first transceiver to the communication frequency associated with said first slot for a number of slots needed to correspond to said multi-slot packet; and
- (e) during said number of slots, tuning a second transceiver to communication frequencies in accordance with the defined duplex communication channel.

15. A method for communicating between a primary device and a plurality of secondary devices in a network, the method comprising:

- (a) defining a duplex communication channel using a plurality of time slots and a plurality of communication frequencies, each time slot having an associated communication frequency;
- (b) receiving a first portion of a packet from a secondary device in a first time slot at a first communication frequency; and
- (c) during a second time slot,
 - transmitting a packet using the communication frequency associated with said second time slot in the definition of the duplex communication channel, and
 - receiving a second portion of said packet from said secondary device at said first communication frequency.

16. A system comprising:

- a time-division duplex channel;
- a first slave device configured to transmit a first packet over said time-division duplex channel at a first frequency during a first time slot;
- a master device, configured to receive said first packet, to determine whether said first packet is a multi-slot packet, and if so, to transmit a second packet over said time-division duplex channel at a second frequency different from said first frequency,

- 20 -

8 wherein said second packet is transmitted after said first slot and prior to the end of said
9 first packet; and

10 a second slave device configured to receive said second packet.

1 17. The system of claim 16, wherein said master device is master of a piconet that
2 includes said first slave and said second slave.

1 18. The system of claim 16, wherein said master device comprises a network access
2 point coupled to a network.

1 19. The system of claim 16, wherein said first packet comprises a header having a
2 packet type code indicative of the slot length of said first packet, and wherein
3 said master device is configured to infer whether said first packet is a multi-slot
4 packet based on said packet type code.

1 20. The system of claim 16, wherein said second packet is transmitted during the
2 first available transmit slot.

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